PROMPT REPLY NECESSARY CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Amy E. Gaylord, Esq. Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP 50 Fremont Street San Francisco, California 94105-2228

Re:

Request for Information Pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA for Former Lyons Diecasting Facility Superfund Site, Buckner, Missouri

Dear Ms. Gaylord:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency seeks the cooperation of your client, the Vendo Company, in providing information and documents relating to the Former Lyons Diecasting Facility Superfund Site, Buckner, Missouri (Site). The Site is located in Section 18, Township 50 North, Range 29 West, Jackson County, Missouri, commonly known as 2300 North Holly Road, Buckner, Missouri. According to Jackson County, Missouri deed records the Vendo Company owned the Site from December 31, 1969 until May 5, 1979.

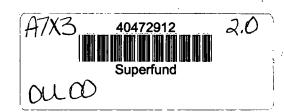
Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et. seq., the EPA has documented the release or threatened release of hazardous substances, or pollutants, or contaminants at the Site. Section 104(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e) provides the EPA broad authority to require information from any party relating to the ability of a person to pay for or to perform a cleanup.

While the EPA seeks your client's cooperation in this investigation, compliance with this Information Request is required by law. In addition, providing false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations may subject your client to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. section 1001. Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. section 9604, authorizes the EPA to pursue penalties for failure to comply with that section or for failure to respond adequately to requests for submission of required information.

Some of the information the EPA is requesting may be considered by you to be confidential information or trade secrets. Please be aware that your client may not withhold the information upon that basis. If you wish the EPA to treat the information confidentially, you must assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested pursuant to sections 104(e)(7)(E) and (F) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7)(E) and (F), and 40 C.F.R. 2.203(b), by attaching to such information at the time it is submitted a cover sheet, stamped or typed legend, or other suitable form of notice employing language such as "trade secret," "proprietary" or "company confidential." Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent and only by means of the procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. part 2, subpart B. If no such claim accompanies the information when

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it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the public by the EPA without further notice to you or your client. This Information Request is not subject to the approval requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq.

The Vendo Company is required to complete and return the enclosed Business Organization Ability to Pay Claim Financial Data Request Form and the enclosed Insurance Information Ability to Pay Claim Data Request Form. Completion of the Insurance Information Ability to Pay Claim Data Request Form will be considered by the EPA as completion of question 37 of the Business Organization Ability to Pay Claim Financial Data Request Form. Your response to this Request must be mailed within 30 days of your receipt of this letter to:

Robert W. Richards, Assistant Regional Counsel Office of Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII 11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219 (913) 551-7502

If you have questions about the history of the Site, the nature of the environmental conditions at the Site, or the status of the EPA's investigations, please contact Mike Davis, On-Scene Coordinator, at (913) 551-7328. However, if you have any legal questions or specific questions about this Information Request, please contact Robert W. Richards, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (913) 551-7502. We look forward to your prompt response and appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Scott Hayes Branch Chief Emergency Response and Removal South Branch Superfund Division

Enclosures:

- 1. Business Organization Ability to Pay Claim Financial Data Request Form
- 2. Insurance Information Ability to Pay Claim Financial Data Request Form



Certified Mail Provides:

Important Reminders:

- A unique identifier for your mailpiece
- A signature upon delivery
- A record of delivery kept by the Postal Service for two years.
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- Certified Mall is not available for any class of international mail.
 NO INSURANCE COVERAGE IS PROVIDED with Certified Mail. For
- valuables, please consider Insured or Registered Mail.

 For an additional fee, a Return Receipt may be requested to provide proof of delivery. To obtain Return Receipt service, please complete and attach a Return
- Receipt (PS Form 3811) to the article and add applicable postage to cover the fee. Endorse mallplece "Return Receipt Requested". To receive a fee walver for a duplicate return receipt, a USPS postmark on your Certified Mail receipt is required.
- For an additional fee, delivery may be restricted to the addressee or addressee's authorized agent. Advise the clerk or mark the mailplece with the endorsement "Restricted Delivery".
 If a postmark on the Certifled Mail receipt is desired, please present the article at the post office for postmarking, if a postmark on the Certifled Mail
- receipt is not needed, detach and affix label with postage and mail. IMPORTANT: Save this receipt and present it when making an inquiry.